

House File 146 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 146
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 50)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act concerning gambling game prohibited activities and
- 2 making penalties applicable.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 99F.15, subsection 4, paragraph d, Code
2 2015, is amended to read as follows:

3 d. Cheats at a gambling game, including but not limited to
4 committing any act which alters the outcome of the game.

5 Sec. 2. Section 99F.15, subsection 4, paragraph h, Code
6 2015, is amended by striking the paragraph.

7 Sec. 3. Section 99F.15, Code 2015, is amended by adding the
8 following new subsection:

9 NEW SUBSECTION. 5A. a. A person who places, removes,
10 increases, or decreases a bet after acquiring knowledge of the
11 outcome of the gambling game which is the subject of the bet or
12 to aid a person in acquiring the knowledge for the purpose of
13 placing, removing, increasing, or decreasing a bet contingent
14 on that outcome commits the offense of unlawful betting.

15 b. (1) A person is guilty of a class "D" felony if the
16 person commits the offense of unlawful betting where the
17 potential winnings from the bet exceed one thousand dollars in
18 value.

19 (2) A person is guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor if
20 the person commits the offense of unlawful betting where the
21 potential winnings from the bet exceed five hundred dollars in
22 value but do not exceed one thousand dollars in value.

23 (3) A person is guilty of a serious misdemeanor if the
24 person commits the offense of unlawful betting where the
25 potential winnings from the bet exceed two hundred dollars in
26 value but do not exceed five hundred dollars in value.

27 (4) A person is guilty of a simple misdemeanor if the person
28 commits the offense of unlawful betting where the potential
29 winnings from the bet do not exceed two hundred dollars in
30 value.

31 c. Two convictions of the offense of unlawful betting as
32 provided in this subsection shall result in the person being
33 barred for life from excursion gambling boats and gambling
34 structures under the jurisdiction of the commission.

35 EXPLANATION

1 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
2 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3 This bill concerns prohibited activities and penalties
4 relative to gambling games on excursion gambling boats and
5 gambling structures.

6 Code section 99F.15(4)(d) is amended to provide that
7 cheating at a gambling game includes committing any act which
8 alters the outcome of the game. A violation of cheating at a
9 gambling game is a class "D" felony.

10 Code section 99F.15(4)(h) currently provides that a person
11 who places a bet after acquiring knowledge, not available to
12 all players, of the outcome of the gambling game which is the
13 subject of the bet commits a class "D" felony regardless of
14 the amount of the bet and is barred for life from excursion
15 gambling boats and gambling structures after a single offense.
16 The bill strikes this provision and creates new subsection 5A
17 concerning the offense of unlawful betting. The bill provides
18 that a person who places, removes, increases, or decreases a
19 bet after acquiring knowledge of the outcome of the gambling
20 game which is the subject of the bet commits the offense of
21 unlawful betting. The bill then provides that a person is
22 guilty of a class "D" felony if the potential winnings from the
23 unlawful bet exceed \$1,000 in value, an aggravated misdemeanor
24 if the potential winnings from the unlawful bet exceed \$500 in
25 value but do not exceed \$1,000 in value, a serious misdemeanor
26 if the potential winnings from the unlawful bet exceed \$200 in
27 value but do not exceed \$500 in value, or a simple misdemeanor
28 if the potential winnings from the unlawful bet do not exceed
29 \$200 in value. The bill further provides that two convictions
30 of the offense of unlawful betting shall result in the person
31 being barred for life from excursion gambling boats and
32 gambling structures.